Three
Little
Doggies

G·L

THREE LITTLE DOGGIES

BY

MABEL.

ILLUSTRATED

WITH 24 PICTURES IN COLOURS

BY

GEORGE LAMBERT.

Dot, Tottie, and Punch,
In a hamper were brought,
And queer were the tricks,
That those doggies were taught.

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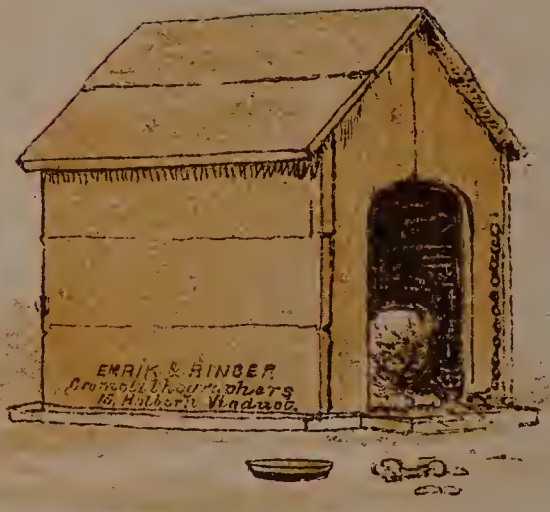
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NORA Bess, and Bobby, were very busy the morning before Christmas, helping their Mamma to arrange the decorations of holly and mistletoe in the dining-room, when there came the post-

man's well-known rat-tat at the door, and away they ran to see whom the letter was from.

OH MAMMA exclaimed the girls, "It's from Grandpapa!"

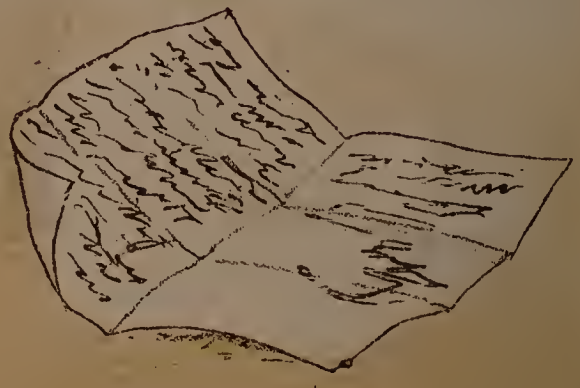
"To say that he will spend Christmas with us, I'll be bound," said Bobby.

And they all gathered round her while she read to them:—

"You may expect to see me this afternoon; give my love to the children and tell them Grandpapa will bring three little orphans with him, to whom he hopes they will be very kind."

"What fun that will be!" said Dora.

"We shall have quite a little party,



because there will be six of us," joined in Bess.

And Bobby in his abrupt way said,

"I hope they will be nice!"

Then they went back to their work wondering who the little orphans could be.

THEY were soon satisfied with their decorations, and then they went to the window to watch for the return of the carriage, which had been sent to the station to meet Grandpapa.

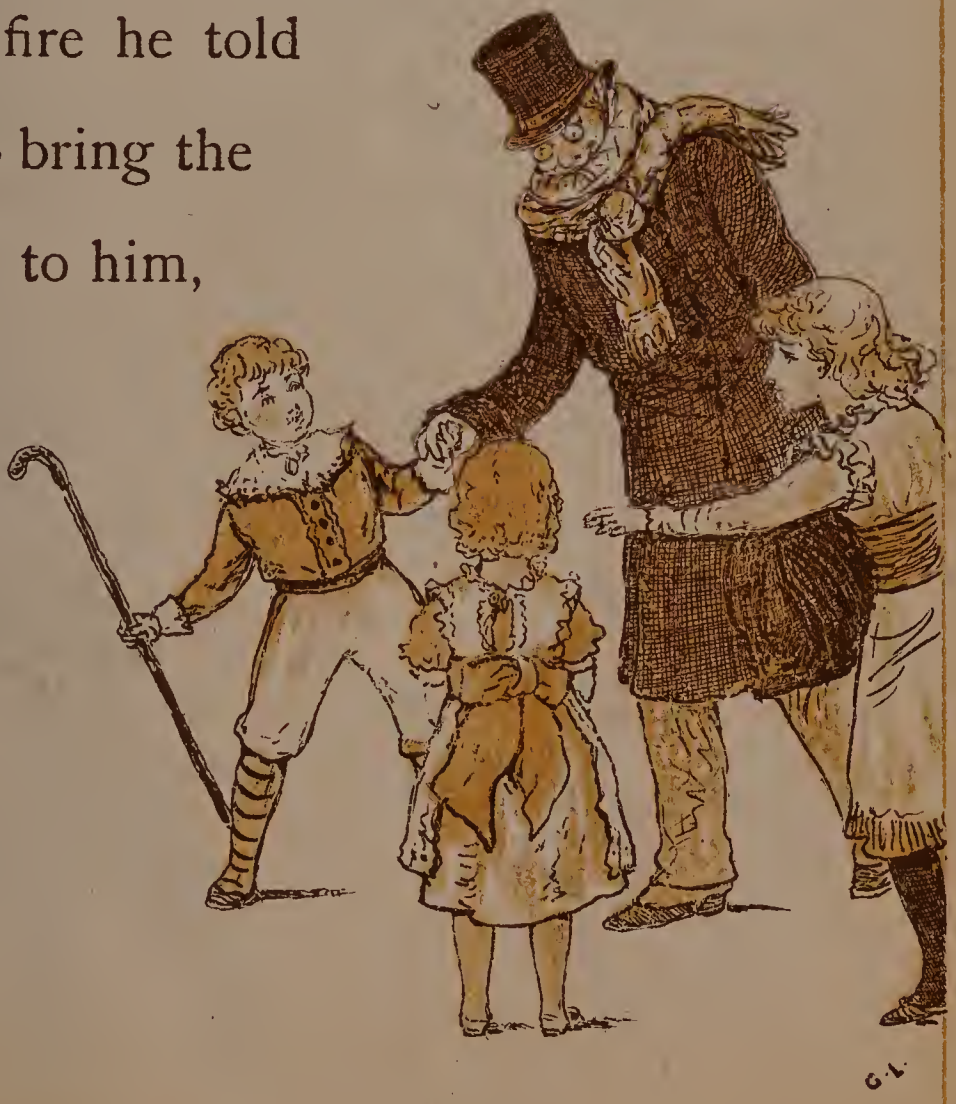
HERE THEY ARE exclaimed Dora as it drove up to the door, and they ran out to receive the expected young guests, but imagine their dismay at seeing

Grandpapa alight from the carriage while James brought in his portmanteau and a hamper!

They ran up and kissed him and asked him—

"How is it you have come alone? We thought you were going to bring three little friends with you."

BUT GRANDPAPA did not answer their question, he only laughed, and when he had comfortably seated himself in the large arm-chair by the fire he told them to bring the hamper to him,



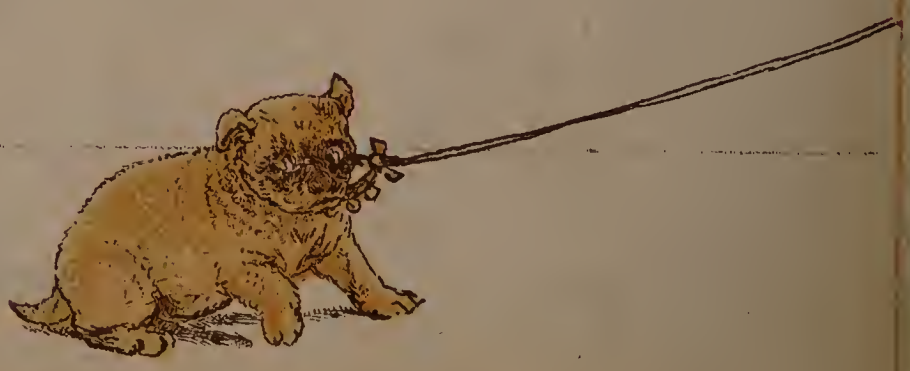
which after much tugging and pulling they managed to do. In another minute they were looking at three of the nicest little pugs you can imagine.

"THERE," said Grandpapa, "are the

little orphans I spoke of. I did not say they were friends at all, for poor old Dido died last week and left these little pets, which I thought you would like to keep."

The children laughed heartily at the mistake they had all made, and said they thought in his letter he meant children.

GRANDPAPA then took them out of the hamper and gave one to each of them. Dora's pug had a blue collar with tiny bells round its neck, and on the collar was worked "Tottie," which they thought was a very pretty name for it; Bess's pug had a pink collar and its name was "Dot," and Bobby's had a little brass one and was called "Punch."



They were very pleased with dear Grandpapa's Christmas present, and said it was a splendid treat to have such "dear little soft fat things" to take care of.

They were afraid BIG BERNARD would not like these new rivals, but when he had thoroughly examined them he did not seem to mind them at all, and the little creatures were delighted to play with his shaggy tail and to bite his ears.

THE CHILDREN then begged their Mamma to make three little hassocks for them to doze on by the fire.

They had fine games with them with a piece of string or a ball. Sometimes the little dogs tore their frocks, for which they were scolded, but when they were good they received a biscuit or a piece of sugar.

They were taught to sit upon their hind legs, and do other funny little feats.

WHEN THEY WENT out for a walk they wore their little coats, which Dora and Bess had made for them, and when TOTTIE and DOT were strong enough they wore very tiny baskets round their necks to carry the sweets when

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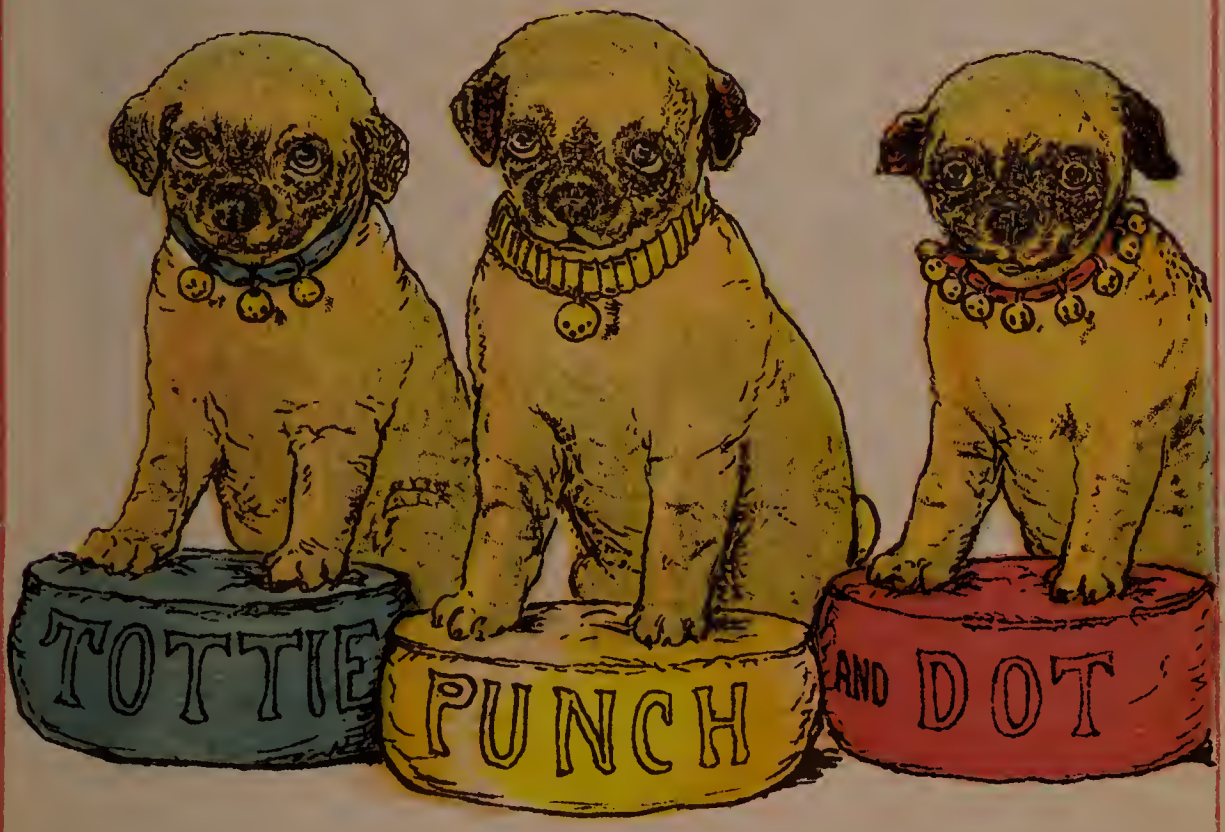
the girls went shopping. And PUNCH was taught to carry Bobby's pencil in his mouth when he went to school, and was very proud

if Bobby's schoolfellows noticed and romped with him.

SO THEY became quite useful, and Dora, Bess, and Bobby were never more pleased with any present they had than with



ADIEU

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